

## 6th Grade

Bible readings come from the Old Testament, Genesis through Malachi, and focus on the journey of the Hebrew people from Abraham to the return from exile.

Science is earth science, including introductions to geology, meteorology, and astronomy. Key skills developed in 6th grade science include following step-by-step lab instructions, using the scientific method and developing a hypothesis, and using a triple beam balance.

History focuses on the United States, 1815 to the present, and is highlighted by a trip to Washington, D.C. each fall.

Literature texts include *Tuck Everlasting*, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, and two texts that are integrated with history course content: *Flags of Our Fathers* and *The Hiding Place*.

Grammar and composition focus on sentence structure, the writing process, descriptive writing, and an introduction to writing analytical essays on literature.

Math skills are found in Saxon 7/6 math with a focus on operations with fractions, decimals and early geometry.

Latin begins a new curriculum in 6th grade: *Ecce Romani*. Middle school Latin continues to introduce basic Latin grammar and vocabulary and incorporates a cultural element through readings on famous men of Rome and select Roman mythology.

In addition to a 5-day trip to Washington, D.C., and surrounding areas each fall, 6th graders enjoy field trips to such area attractions as TPAC, the Adventure Science Museum, and Andrew Jackson's Hermitage.

Other special events and projects include participating in the school-wide history fair, holding a Native American feast, and building a model of the earth for science.

6th grade extracurricular opportunities include football, cross country, girls volleyball, boys and girls basketball, cheerleading, co-ed soccer, the annual spring musical, chess, and student council.

Service projects connect students to Divine Grace Primary School in Uganda, the Good Shepherd Children's Home in Murfreesboro, and other local and international ministries.

## 7th Grade

Bible readings come from the New Testament studies, the gospels, Acts and the Pauline letters.

Science is middle school chemistry, studying the scientific method, creating lab procedures with a lab report, chemical reactions, atomic structure, states of matter, and chemical reactions. Highlights include a Coke & Mentos lab.

History focuses on the world history, from pre-history to the age of exploration.

Literature texts include *The Children's Homer*, *The Fellowship of the Ring*, *A Christmas Carol*, and *Out of the Silent Planet*.

Grammar and composition studies hone grammar & usage skills, develop the Six Traits of Writing, and include a semester-long research paper project that is integrated with history curriculum .

Math skills come from Saxon 8/7 and include pre-Algebra.

Latin continues to develop grammar and vocabulary and adds to students' knowledge of Roman culture through readings on famous men of Rome and select Roman mythology.

Field trips often include area attractions like TPAC and the Frist Museum.

Other special events and projects include participating in the school-wide history fair and a chemistry show for lower school students.

7th grade extracurricular opportunities include football, cross country, girls volleyball, boys and girls basketball, cheerleading, co-ed soccer, the annual spring musical, chess, and student council.

Service projects connect students to Divine Grace Primary School in Uganda, the Good Shepherd Children's Home in Murfreesboro, and other local and international ministries.

## 8th Grade

8th grade Bible emphasizes Christian living and applying Biblical truth to daily life.

Science focuses on middle school physics, studying physical science forces, motion, energy, simple machines, electricity and magnetism, sound and light. Science projects include a kite project.

History is a survey of the second half of the world history curriculum, from absolute monarchies to the modern age.

8th grade combines literature and composition into a single English course. Student reading includes *Beowulf*, *Macbeth*, and *Frankenstein*. 8th grade English also includes an extended unit on poetry in which students study various poetic tropes, learn to write and scan poetry, and are introduced to writing a formal poetry explication.

8th grade students take either Saxon Algebra 1/2, a more slowly paced introduction to algebra that also emphasizes cementing core math skills, or Saxon Algebra I.

Latin continues to develop grammar and vocabulary and adds to students' knowledge of Roman culture through readings on famous men of Rome and select Roman mythology.

Field trips often include area attractions like the Country Music Hall of Fame and the wind tunnels at Arnold AFB in Tullahoma, TN.

Informal logic is introduced as a course, and students study inductive reasoning and common logical fallacies through evaluating real-life editorials, commercials and political ads.

8th grade students can earn high school credit in Latin and Algebra. Please refer to specific criteria outlined in the middle school page of the curriculum section of this website.

8th grade extracurricular opportunities include football, cross country, girls volleyball, boys and girls basketball, cheerleading, co-ed soccer, the annual spring musical, chess, and student council.

Service projects connect students to Divine Grace Primary School in Uganda, the Good Shepherd Children's Home in Murfreesboro, and other local and international ministries.